

# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

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THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2015

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## Parton to assume superintendent role next week

By James McAfee  
The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — Troy Parton, superintendent for the Paducah ISD, has been named as the lone finalist to replace Robert Dillard as superintendent of the Munday CISD by the district's board of trustees and will assume the position next week following a 21-day waiting period.

The trustees did go into executive session Tuesday night to start negotiations on a contract with Parton, but no official action will be taken until a Tuesday, July 28 board meeting.

In applying for the position in his resume, Parton explained his philosophy of education:

"First and foremost, I believe that all students can learn. All

students do not learn at the same pace, nor does each child place the same value on their education, but all are capable of learning.

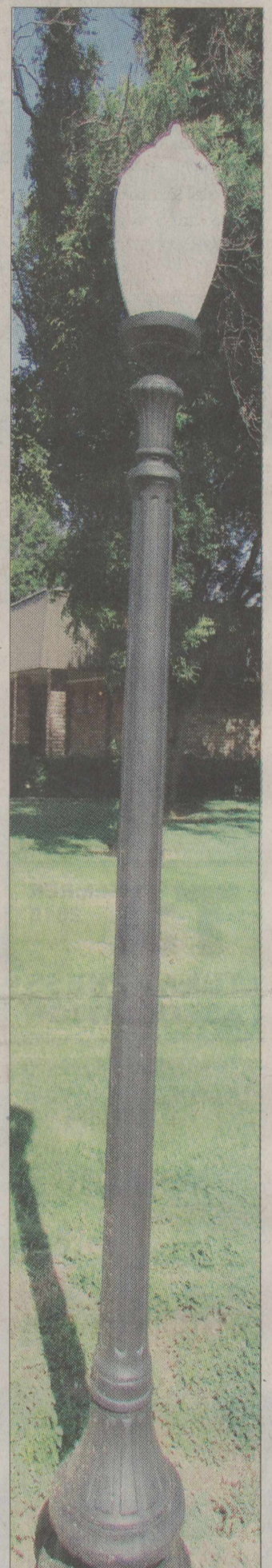
"As an educator, part of my job is to inspire students to become active learners, to be involved in their education. Students need to be encouraged but by the same token they need to realize that every thing they do has a consequence either good or bad.

"Students and parents need to work with the school system to ensure that the student receives the best education available from the district. Parents need to be active in promoting the roles of the student, in learning, and the school in providing the opportunity to learn.



See PARTON Page 6 Troy Parton

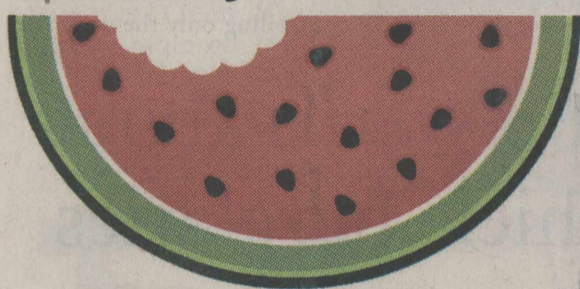
## Lamp posts need work



James McAfee, The Knox County News-Courier

A hailstorm earlier in the year caused extensive damages to the globes in the lamp posts in Munday. Keep Munday Beautiful plans to replace them, having ordered 100 new ones. The posts will also be repainted and new memorial plaques will replace the old ones. Perry Kuehler notes that volunteers are needed to assist with the project. Others can help by making donations to Keep Munday Beautiful at PO Box 687, Munday, TX 76371.

## Watermelon Festival starts Friday



By James McAfee  
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The 27th edition of the Knox City Watermelon Festival, presented by the Knox City Chamber of Commerce, will take place here Friday and Saturday.

Vendors will man booths starting at 3 p.m. Friday. A parade is scheduled at 6 p.m. and local musicians will provide music at 8 p.m. at the city park.

There will be a golf tournament, featuring a 3-person scramble format, Saturday morning at the Knox City Country Club.

Booths for the Watermelon Festival will be open 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday. Local musicians will provide live music throughout the day. In addition, free swimming, kiddie train rides and watermelon will be provided at the city park.

See FESTIVAL Page 6

## Well levels up in Knox County

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — Many questions are being asked about this spring's rainfall and the effect on the water table levels.

The answer, according to Mike McGuire of the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District, is that the water levels in Knox, Baylor and Haskell are up for the most part.

"Due to the extreme variability of the Seymour Aquifer, varying rainfall, variations in recharge areas and pumping rates, water levels vary in the three counties," he said. "Some areas have levels above where we were at this time last year, some are about where we were last year and some are below where we were last year."

See LEVELS Page 6

## Seal coat planned for FM 1608

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

CHILDRESS — Each year the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Childress District seal coats select roads as part of a maintenance program to prolong the life of the road.

Seal coating offers three major benefits: it protects the road base by keeping water from seeping in, it seals cracks and stops them from spreading, and it provides a new skid surface which improves safety.

Contractor Missouri Petroleum Products Company, Inc. will begin the \$5 million seal coat project starting Monday with an estimated 84 days to complete, weather permitting.

Among the roads scheduled for a seal coat are FM 1608 in Knox County, SH 6, SH 70 and US 70 in Foard County and US 82 in Dickens.

Motorists are asked to slow down in work zones and obey all warning signs, flaggers and pilot cars. Motorists should avoid areas where work is being done if at all possible. Loose rock is likely during the seal coat process.

## Knox City pool opens



Courtesy photos

Youngsters are shown enjoying the City of Knox City Swimming Pool Tuesday afternoon after it opened last Saturday. (See story, page 4)

## Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact kcnewscourier@gmail.com.

## News on the go



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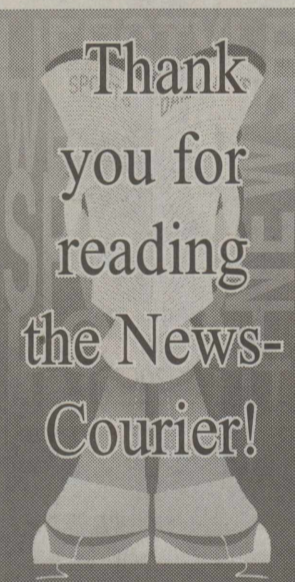
It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and the ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

**DEADLINES**

Advertising: Noon Mondays  
Editorial: 5 p.m. Mondays

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

\$36 a year in the county  
\$42 a year outside the county



**Obits**

**Cleta Jones**

Cleta A. Jones, 88, of Wichita Falls, died on Sunday, July 19, 2015. Funeral services were scheduled at 10 a.m. today in the chapel of Owens & Brumley Funeral Home with Rev. Larry Shields officiating.

Interment will follow at 2:00 p.m. at the Goree Cemetery under the direction of Owens & Brumley Funeral Home of Wichita Falls.

A daughter of the late Mary Ada (Howell) and Grover C. Jordan, Cleta was born on Dec. 14, 1926, in Knox County.

She and Harold T. Jones were married on Sept. 22, 1944 in Goree. Cleta was a homemaker and farmer's wife. Along with her parents, Cleta



**CLETA JONES**

was also preceded in death by her husband Harold T. Jones in 2013, brother Jim Jordan and sister Bonnie aCato.

Cleta is survived by her children, Karen Jones and

husband Robert Johnson of Wichita Falls; Randy Jones and wife Sherry of Quinlan; Jan Jones and wife Linda of Irving; brother Lee Jordan and wife, Edie of Green Valley, Ariz; grandchildren, Chad, Brent, Cody, Casey, M'Lyn and Tammy; and great-grandchildren, Hagan, Clayton, Cole, Gabe, Garrett, Noble, Clatiana, Knya, Marisha, Savanna, Tyler, Neely and Grace.

For those desiring, memorial contributions may be sent to Hospice of Wichita Falls. The family received friends last night at Owens & Brumley Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.owensandbrumley.com.

**Naomi Pape**

Naomi Pape, 92, of Munday, passed away Sunday, July 19, 2015 in Knox County Hospital. She was born Feb. 6, 1923 in Wellington to Mike and Ruby Burkhalter. Naomi married Frederick Wilhelm Pape on Aug. 10, 1941.

Naomi was a member of the First Baptist Church for 65 years where she was a Sunday School teacher and a member of the choir. She also was a member and served several terms as president of the PTA. She was a member of Eastern Star for several years. Naomi was the bookkeeper for John Deere for many, many years



**NAOMI PAPE**

but prior to that she worked at many different places including City Grill, Morton Wilborns, Beatys, Rexall and Dairy Treat. She also ran the Snack Shack.

Naomi was preceded in death by her parents, her hus-

band, one sister Joveta Stone and one brother Jessie D. Burkhalter.

She is survived by one son; Henry and wife Emma Jean Pape of Fort Worth; two daughters; Frieda Brown and husband, Gene of Rhineland and Martha Pape of Munday. Also, seven grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church in Munday. Interment will follow in Johnson Memorial Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home in Munday.

**Stella Carver**

Stella Carver, a longtime Knox City resident, passed away Monday, July 20, 2015 at her daughter's home in Lubbock at the age of 100.

Family burial was held Wednesday Wednesday in Rochester Cemetery following a memorial service at the First Baptist Church in Knox City under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes. Visitation was held Tuesday at the funeral home in Knox City.

Stella was born July 1, 1915 in O'Brien to John Henry Rex, Sr. and Mattie Eva (Farley) Rex. She graduated from O'Brien High School in 1934. She married J.V. "Bud" Carver Nov. 22, 1934 and he died Aug. 1, 1999. She was a member of Knox City First Baptist Church.

Before she moved to Lubbock to be with her girls, her



**STELLA CARVER**

activities included attending Sunday School and church regularly, working daily at the Aging Center, working Mondays at Pink Ladies as a volunteer, playing 42, dominoes, quilting, bridge, working with people at the church, and driving herself to Rochester to the beauty shop. She was privileged to serve at a spotter during

World War II going into the hills at night looking for Japanese Bombers.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J.V. "Bud" Carver; an infant baby girl; six sisters and two brothers.

Stella is survived by her daughter Barbara and her husband Gary Welch of Lubbock; three granddaughters, Kecia and her husband Kenny Griggs of Lubbock, Wendy Rasberry of Lubbock, and Kelly and husband Mark McCormick of Floydada; six great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials can be given in Stella's name to the Pink Ladies Hospital Axillary, 701 S E 5th St. Knox City, TX 79529.

Online condolences can be shared with Stella's family at www.smithfamilyfh.com.

**Aging Center Menu**

**Menus for week of July 27-31**

**Monday:** Smothered pork chops, rice, mixed vegetables, rolls, cake

**Tuesday:** Taco salad with tortilla chips, cheese, dressing, dessert

**Wednesday:** BBQ chicken, potato salad, beans, coleslaw, black forest cake

**Thursday:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, peach cobbler

**Friday:** Chicken salad on lettuce, broccoli salad, macaroni salad, cookies

**Haskell man dies in wreck**

HASKELL — The Texas Department of Public Safety reported that Cornelius Dessivia, 46, of Haskell died July 14 after a two-vehicle crash on U.S. Highway 380, about three miles east of Haskell.

A Chevrolet Tahoe, driven by Erin Dunnam of Haskell, veered into westbound traffic to avoid striking a wild pig and collided with Dessivia, according to DPS Trooper Larry Adams Jr.

**Grasshopper infestations warrant treatment**

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

Farmers and homeowners here in Knox County are seeing a heavy infestation of grasshoppers and entomologists are saying the problem could get worse if steps are not taken to control them.

The grasshoppers are not affecting the field crops as badly as they could be because of all the green plants and grass in pastures and ditches.

To control the grasshoppers, Texas A&M AgriLife entomologists say insecticide sprays can be used for larger acreages, especially ones where Canola oil has been added. Baits are more limited, controlling only the ones they attract.

**DPS warns about vehicle burglaries**

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) reminds Texans that vehicle thefts and vehicle burglaries tend to increase during the summer months, especially July and August, and encourages individuals to take necessary precautions to protect their vehicles from potential thefts.

"The summer months in Texas typically are one of the busiest times for vehicle thefts, and DPS is urging Texans to take preventative measures to secure their vehicles and avoid possible thefts and burglaries," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Individuals can do their part to help ward off criminals this summer by always locking their cars and keeping valuables out of sight."

DPS offers the following tips that Texans can follow to help guard against vehicle theft:

Never leave your car running unattended, even for a quick visit to a business or store.

Never leave keys in the car or ignition, inside a locked garage, or in hide-a-key boxes.

Always roll up your windows and lock the car, even if it is parked at your home.

When possible, always park in high-traffic, well-lighted areas.

Install an anti-theft device that locks the steering wheel, column or brakes, especially if your vehicle is considered to be at increased risk for theft.

Never leave personal documents, vehicle ownership title or credit cards in your vehicle.

Always keep valuables or property hidden out of sight or locked in the trunk.

If your vehicle is stolen, report it to the police immediately. DPS also encourages individuals to keep a copy of their license plate and vehicle identification number on hand in case of theft, since police will need this information to take a report.

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# The 501 Zing at any age

The best time to learn to play a violin is when you're barely old enough to hold one. I think that's about age 3.

Or wait till you're 68, like me. When you pick up a fiddle late in life, it's nice that no one really expects much from you. You can usually silence any critic with these words:



HANABA MUNN WELCH

"You try it." So far my guitarist husband has been mostly kind. Yesterday he said I sounded "brutal." Most of the time, he keeps his thoughts to himself and wears a prayerful expression, no doubt praying I'll either get better or give it up.

If I'd been playing heavy metal, "brutal" might have been a compliment. I wasn't. I was playing "Adobe Hacienda." (If you don't know that old song, you're probably not reading this column.)

Another good thing about learning an instrument after you've lived a while is that you've already heard most of the tunes. This week my husband and I are among the oldest students at a music camp for guitar, horns and fiddle, emphasis on Big Band music and Western Swing. We're playing our songs.

Most of the students are decades younger. The star vocalist is a 13-year-old named Kate. She's got a voice from the past. Think Rosemary Clooney. But the songs are nearly all new to Kate. Same thing for

her 12-year-old fiddling sidekick Sidney. Neither is daunted. They're playing and singing stuff from the '30s and '40s like it's a normal thing to do. For the moment, it is.

When Kate perfects her craft, she should be able to step in and sing with any big band, if she can find one. That's the problem with recreating the past at a summer music camp, especially for adolescents. When it's over, you're suddenly back in the present, and none of your friends in the eighth grade want to hear what a good time you had singing and playing music from the 78 rpm era.

Adrien, 14, is from Paris. He's taking guitar. He'll probably be the only kid in the City of Light who's heard of Bob Wills. (If you haven't, you're probably not reading this column.)

Camp is almost over. When it is, the music camp kids will belong to an exclusive group -- adolescents who can sing along with "Take Me Back to Tulsa."

It's one way to belong. When you're young, sometimes you take belonging where you can get it.

Hey, I think the youngsters have had a good time and have liked the music -- everything from the basic hummable tunes to jazz improvisations thereof. Some of the guitars have gone off the charts. And you should hear Kate on sax.

By the way, isn't there something to be said for the power of music to make age irrelevant? When we strap on our guitars and pick up our fiddles and bows, we are in it together, aiming for the musician's equivalent of a runner's high.

Thank goodness we're not at track camp.



Hanaba Munn Welch/The Knox County News-Courier

Kate Ridens, vocalist and saxophonist, and Kyle Norman, guitarist, watch and listen as instructor Joe Settlemires plays a riff on his guitar at last week's Circle Bar Ranch Music Camp at Truscott. Settlemires, who recently retired from instructing music and managing the show band at the University of Science and Arts at Chickasha, Okla., taught guitar and music theory. Elizabeth Terry of Lubbock taught fiddle. The camp emphasized Western Swing music and ended with a concert Thursday.

# Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

The hot weather temps seem to be "getting to people." Not too long ago, we were all ready for some warm days and now almost everyone is ready for winter again! As for myself, I'm not ready for extreme cold but some cool football weather--fall days sure would be nice. But we'll have to get past the rest of July, August, and part of September first. A nice shower would be great any time now. Things are beginning to show signs of needing some moisture.

### About our ill

Carol Dickson (and Dick) are back from Houston and a series of chemo and radiation therapy. She's feeling pretty well--tired, of course, from that six week ordeal, but after a few days things will begin to improve. The main thing is the fact that she's home and very glad to be back. It was good to see her doing as well as she is.

Tammy Lyles said her dad Fred Carver is doing pretty well. He got a good report the last time he saw his doctor. He took his third chemo treatment Wednesday. He has one more to go before the testing to see what progress has been made.

I understand that Mike Young had surgery on Friday, but I have not had a post-op report. I think things must be going well or we would have heard. His sister Deanne Lamb is in the Munday Nursing Center and had x-rays on her back last week and thankfully no real problem was found. She was given a muscle relaxer, hopefully that will give her some relief.

Courtney Sherrard had some foot surgery last week (out patient) and is doing well with it. It's sore I'm sure but that's to be expected. She went back on Tuesday for a post-op checkup. Please keep all these friends in your prayers.

### Here 'n there

I talked to Evelyn Balis Saturday. She seems to be doing OK. It's not Knox City and it's not home, but she's where she needs to be as her health is failing fast and she needs to be near

her children and now she is. She's in a Richardson nursing facility and her two sons live in the area. Her daughter lives in Syracuse, NY.

Sunday night guests of Mike and Debi Moorhouse were her cousin Mark Green and his wife Tracy of Dallas. Mark and Tracy have been living in California for several years and just moved back to Texas a few weeks ago. Visiting Mike and Debi this week are Teresa Washington and her grandson of Childress.

Kim Moore and daughter Shelby Russell spent a long weekend in Ruidoso, NM. They visited with her brother and wife Keith and Pam Conner (who own a home there and go there frequently) while out there. While we sweltered in 100 degree heat on Friday, she said it was 66 degrees there. That's enough of difference to make one sort of jealous of those who have an opportunity to spend a good bit of time there.

I attended the funeral of Ray White on Saturday in Knox City. Ray died on Monday in a Dallas hospital after failing health for several months. Ray and his wife Betty Ruth lived in Rochester and were friends of mine and many others. My sincere sympathy to Betty Ruth and the rest of his family and all his friends.

Also my sympathy to Lois Cypert of Knox City. Lois' oldest son passed away Thursday after several days in ICU following heart surgery. He did not live here in this area.

Stephanie Brannan and children of Meadow spent a few days last week with her great grandmother Hazel Stockton and cousins Samijo Russell and DJ. On Sunday they "packed up" and went to Durant, Okla. for Hazel to see her old "stomping grounds." She had been

wanting to go for a while but had not really felt like it, but guess she decided to go on and take a chance of not feeling any worse when she gets back today. Getting away a day or so may do her more good than prescribed medicine.

Diane and Ashlee Evans of Childress spent Sunday with me. Debi and Mike Moorhouse joined us for a lunch and a visit.

Charles and Linda Griffith were in Clovis, N.M. Sunday for a visit with Amy and Vince Tyson. The weekend before Charles and Linda attended the Griffith reunion in Abilene.

Chad, Kathy and Justin Rainwater returned home Sunday after a week's vacation in Colorado. She said it was very pleasant out there. They were near Durango, with temperatures in the 60s during the day and 40s during the night and rain every day. Sounds like a vacationer's paradise. Kathy said Justin caught his first trout, so that pleased him. Just sounds like they had lots of fun and did some resting as well.

I don't know about anyone else, but I'm sure having trouble coping with all the Texas Rangers' losses. I just hope they get out of this "slump" (as everyone calls it) before long. Makes it a whole lot more interesting when they are winning.

Don't forget the Watermelon Festival in Knox City this Friday and Saturday. Sounds like those in charge have worked hard to make it successful and enjoyable for everyone. Maybe the weather will be a bit cooler by the weekend.

As a last minute addition to my column, I have just learned that Stella Carver has passed away. My sympathy goes out to her family and friends.

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# Knox City swimming pool now open

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The City of Knox City Swimming Pool opened last Saturday with 93 youngsters and guests showing up, according to manager Cassie Wainscott.

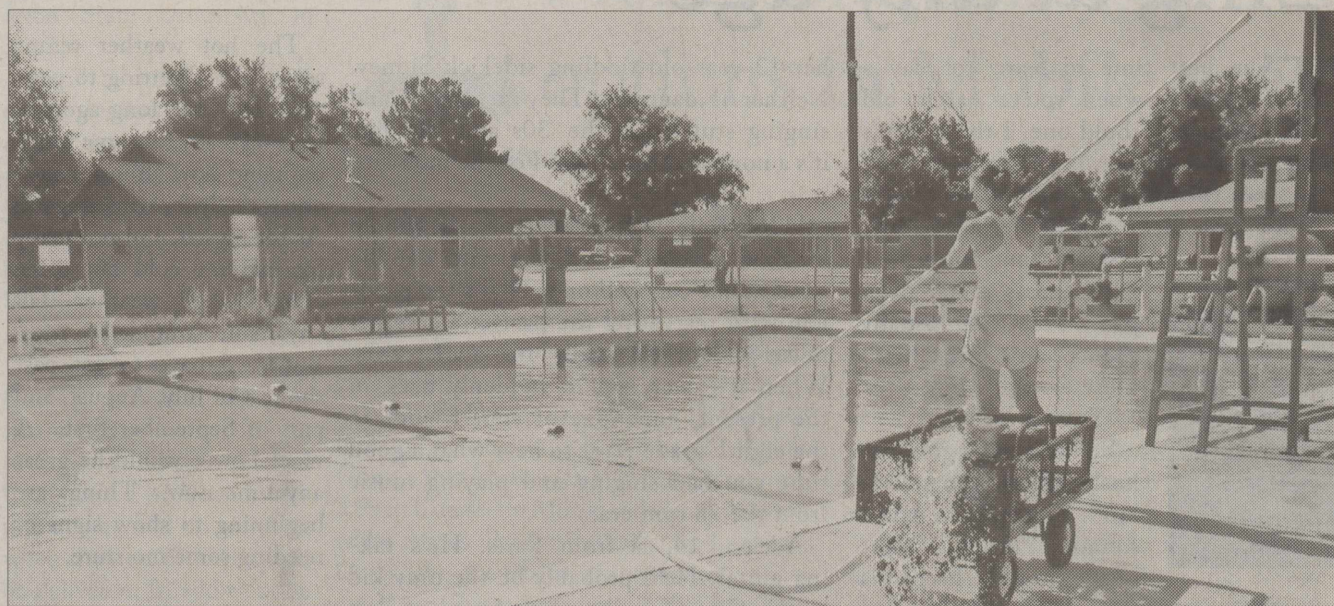
City administrator Sam Watson indicated the pool would remain open to Aug. 30.

With water restrictions and leak problems, the pool had not been open the past two summers.

The pool will be closed on Mondays, open 1-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2-6 p.m. Sundays.

The cost is \$2 for those 3 years and older. A season family pass sells for \$50.

Watson also indicated the pool would be available for after hour parties by calling the city or making arrangements with Wainscott.



Cassie Wainscott, pool manager, prepares the City of Knox City Swimming Pool before it opened Tuesday morning.

## West claims three all-star contests

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

WICHITA FALLS — The Texas Six-Man Coaches Association finished its annual conference, showcasing graduating seniors in four all-star games here last week.

The West dominated, sweeping the boys and girls basketball games by 68-63 and 58-31 margins at D.L. Ligon Coliseum at Midwestern University, but the East put on a dominating performance to run away with a 58-6 victory in the Division II football game after the West captured the Division I game the previous night, 62-22, at Memorial Stadium.

To no one's surprise, Crowell's Mitchell Parsley, who led the Wildcats to back-to-back state titles, was selected as the offensive MVP in the Division I game. He completed 13 of 18 passes for 174 yards, including five for touchdowns to five different receivers in the rout by the West.

The West defense was amazing, too, helping the West to an early 12-0 lead, forcing the East to turn the ball over at its own six on the first possession when a punt went for a negative three yards. Then Mychael Tijerina of Robert Lee recovered a bad pitch in the end zone.

The East's first seven plays went for negative yards and it didn't get on the scoreboard until early in the fourth quarter after the Parsley-led West had assumed a 40-0 lead.

Ira's Logan Morris, called the "fastest player he had ever played with" by Parsley, was named the defensive MVP. In addition, Morris caught a TD pass from Parsley and had returns of 63 and 55 yards for other scores.

Making history was Alexandra Thompson of Kopperl, the first female to participate in the all-star game. She handled the kicking duties for the East, making two of three two-point conversions.

Paducah's Oscar Mathis, who will play at Wayland Baptist this fall, emerged as the offensive MVP in the Division II game. He touched the ball five times and scored four touchdowns, one on a 29-yard pass from Cody Hubbard and three on runs of 33, 7 and 45.

"We really came together as a team," Mathis explained the dominating performance.

Jake Welch of Harrold and Denzel Graves of Chilicothe, members of the same district as Benjamin, also got into the scoring act. Welch caught TD passes of 26 and 36 from Hubbard and Graves scored on an eight-yard run.

Matt Snider of Trinidad was named the defensive MVP.

The West boys cagers won for the eighth straight time, breaking a 60-60 tie with eight free throws in the final two minutes. The difference came from outside where the West connected on 10-28 three-pointers as compared to 7 of 29 for the East.

Carlos Espino of Texline was the MVP, scoring 15 points and adding four assists. Brady Chamberlain led the East with 16 points.

The West girls dominated from the start, assuming a 32-6 lead at halftime and then coasted to a convincing ninth straight triumph.

Haley Wheeler of Valley claimed MVP honors, scoring 13 points and adding four assists.

## Knox City C.C. golf schedule

Aug. 8—Knox City CC Ag-Oil, 4-man, \$240, 8 a.m., 2 p.m.

Aug. 22—Glow Ball Scramble, 4-person, \$25, 5 p.m.

Sept. 7—Labor Day Scramble, blind draw, \$15, 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 12—Knox City Fall Classic, 3-person, \$75, 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 19—Knox City Chamber of Commerce Scramble, 3-person, \$120, 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 3—Glow Ball Scramble, 4-person, \$25 (includes meal), 5 p.m.

Oct. 10—Guys & Dolls Scramble, 2-person scramble, \$75, 1:30 p.m.

To enter tournaments, call 940 658-3911 after 6 p.m. or send to PO Box 734, Knox City, TX 79529

## Weather Whys

### Supercells intense thunderstorms

**You hear about thunderstorms, severe storms and supercells. What's the difference?**

A thunderstorm by definition is a storm accompanied by lightning and thunder, while severe storms and supercells are the most intense types of thunderstorms, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "All can be responsible for rough weather such as tornadoes, hail, strong winds and flash floods, which are the biggest weather-related killer in the U.S.," he says. "Thunderstorms must have unstable air to form, and then need a push to give that air an upward shove, which is why most form in the spring and summer. A severe thunderstorm is one that has or is suspected of having winds of 58 miles per hour or faster and/or hail of at least one inch in diameter. Supercells are a particularly intense type of thunderstorm that can last several hours and travel hundreds of miles. They are characterized by a rotating updraft and are usually isolated in nature, though they can be embedded in a squall line. Supercells have clouds that can go as high as 60,000 feet, produce incredibly strong down-drafts, and are capable of producing large hail and damaging tornadoes."

**What's the worst outbreak of thunder-**

**storms on record?**

In the U.S., the storms of April 25-28, 2011, are in a class by themselves, McRoberts says. The conditions were perfect for supercell development, with an intense low-pressure area, humid air from the Gulf of Mexico, and the jet stream blowing hard across the Central U.S. "The results were devastating," he reports. "The storms produced more than 350 tornadoes in the four day period, and winds in at least four of those tornadoes were over 200 miles per hour, meaning they were classified as an EF-5, the most severe. In all, 348 people were killed in 6 states and the damage totaled over \$11 billion. Less than a month later, the Joplin tornado in Missouri killed 158 people, injured more than 1,000 and caused nearly \$3 billion in damage. It was rated an EF-5 tornado with winds topping out at 250 mph, and was part of a late-May outbreak that killed 178 people. The Super Outbreak of April 1974 is considered the most violent outbreak, as it produced 30 F4 and F5 tornadoes over a two-day period in the Midwest and Southeast."

Weather Whys is a service of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University.

More news about Texas A&M University

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## Kids warned of stranger danger



James McAfee/The Knox County News-Courier

Munday Police Chief Chris Mendoza reads from "Strangers," alerting youngsters to the dangers of talking to strangers, at the final session of the summer reading program at the Munday City-County Library last week.

## 'Listen Up' VBS continues thru Saturday

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — The Munday church of Christ kicked off its annual Vacation Bible School with the theme of "Listen Up" here Thursday morning. It will continue from 9 a.m. until 12:30 Friday and Saturday. Meals will be provided for the youngsters attending.

A mystery night for teens is scheduled at 6:45 p.m. today while there will be a showing of the movie "23 Blast" for everyone

at 8:30 p.m. Friday—popcorn and drinks included—and a kids carnival from 7-8:30 p.m. Saturday.

A group of teenagers from the MacArthur Church of Christ in San Antonio will be in town assisting with the VBS along with a few teens from Campe Verde, Az. and some grandkids of members.

Munday church of Christ minister Wayne Speer indicated that 100 youngsters from age 3 to those in the sixth grade were expected to attend.



James McAfee/The Knox County News-Courier

Teenagers from the MacArthur Church of Christ in San Antonio arrived Tuesday to start preparing for the Munday Church of Christ Vacation Bible School, scheduled Thursday through Saturday.

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## FBC Munday youth schedule

- July 20-23 — Youth camp, grades 7-12
- Aug. 5-8 — Rock the Desert for Youth, grades 7-12
- Aug. 10 — Munday Night Madness, 8-10 p.m.
- Aug. 12 — Sonshine Fun@ the Park, 5:30-6:30 for kids, 7-8 p.m for youths
- Aug. 19 — Sonshine Fun @ the Park, same time schedule
- Aug. 26 — Back 2 School Block Party, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

## State football finals moved to Houston

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

AUSTIN — The University Interscholastic League announced Monday that the 2015 state championship football games in Classes 2A through 6A will be played at NRG Stadium in Houston.

The past four years the games have been played at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, and have been at a single site since 2011. NRG Stadium hosted a pair of Class 5A title games in

2008.

The schedule:

- Dec. 17 — 10 a.m. — Class 2A Division I ; 1 p.m. — Class 2A Division II; 5 p.m. — Class 3A Division I ; 8 p.m. — Class 3A Division II
- Dec. 18 — Noon — Class 4A Division I; 4 p.m. — Class 4A Division II; 8 p.m. — Class 5A Division I
- Dec. 19 — Noon — Class 5A Division II 4 p.m. — Class 6A Division II 8 p.m. — Class 6A Division I

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## PARTON

From Page 1

Students need to be encouraged to take advantage of all the opportunities available to them and enjoy their school experience.

"As the world changes, teaching must change to meet the needs of colleges and businesses if schools are to adequately prepare students for our dynamic world. An educator must be able to accept and embrace the change in order to provide the best opportunities for students.

Technology must be included in my philosophy. Computers and the internet have changed our entire education system, from teaching and delivery to submission of state reports. The ability to change is of utmost importance in today's education setting."

Summing up his philosophy on education, Parton added, "I am a dynamic in-

dividual willing to embrace the changes in the future in order to provide the best education for the students of my school in the most efficient way possible."

Parton has been the superintendent at Paducah since January 2009 after serving as a principal for the Onalaska ISD for two years, principal-coach for the Jayton-Girard ISD for two years and principal for the New Home CISD for a year.

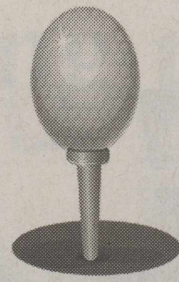
His teaching and coaching assignments included stops at Strawn High School, Follett High School, Agra, Okla. High School, Del Crest Junior High in Midwest City, Okla., Texline High School and Felt, Okla. High School.

After graduating from Smithville, Okla. High School in 1984, Parton attended Midwest Christian College, the University of Central Oklahoma and Northern Oklahoma State University before gaining a Bachelor of Science degree

in Science Education from Northeastern Oklahoma State University in 1989. He then earned a Masters of Education degree at Tarleton State University in 2003.

Prior to going into executive session last Tuesday night, the trustees did approve a budget amendment to move funds until the state money arrives and OKed a bid of \$100 from Jordan Wren for a lot. They took no action on personnel matters.

Interim superintendent Skip Casey did tell the trustees that work on the roofs at both schools had been started by Booe Roofing, but he had no word on when the new pickup would be delivered. In addition, he mentioned that getting the parking lot done in time for school to start might be a problem as all providers were running behind schedule. He suggested that the trustees hold off on any decisions to repair the gym floor at Munday Elementary.



## On the Tee

### Plenty of quality golf options in Mobile area

By James McAfee

While the Robert Trent Jones Trail gets the most attention from golfers traveling to Alabama, the Mobile area down South definitely shouldn't be overlooked as there are plenty of quality golfing options that will give you bang for your bucks.

You can still get a taste of the RTJ Trail with three of the original golf courses at Magnolia Grove—the Crossings and the Falls plus the par-3 Short Course—in Mobile and you can play two of the courses added to the trail at the Lakewood Golf Club—the Dogwood and Azalea.

Lakewood was built back in 1947 by Perry Maxwell, the Oklahoma architect best known for designing Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa. There were two nines aptly named Azalea and Dogwood because of the profusion of each on the property. Today there are 36 holes with the same names where members along with guests of the Grand Hotel and RTJ Trail players alternate days playing.

Funded by the Retirement Systems of Alabama, the renovations at both courses, including the addition of 10 water features, made them more player friendly and brought them up to par with other great resorts in the country as they flow through tree-lined fairways. The Dogwood might tend to be a little more player friendly than the Azalea, but both offer plenty of challenges from which ever tees are selected. There's an island green on the 14th at Azalea.

At Magnolia Grove, the Crossings is a parkland type layout with some water features and crushed oyster shell waste areas plus numerous pulpit bunkers and undulating greens that will demand your attention if your approach shots aren't accurate while the Falls is also carved through hardwood and pines with large greens and massive cloverleaf bunkers that also require accurate approach shots.

Both received extensive renovations in the past five years that have made them more player friendly without changing the integrity of the original designs done by Roger Rulewich of the Robert Trent Jones company with an assist from Bobby Vaughan. The greens now feature Mini

Verde ultra dwarf Bermuda that make for great putting surfaces even with all the play they get.

The green fees range from \$72.30 to \$92.30 on the two courses or \$46.15 after 2 p.m. Trail card holders pay \$46.15 to \$51.30.

The Short Course features par 3s, not the normal pitch and putt variety as some are longer than 200 yards, that could be placed on either of the other two courses. It has been called the best in America by Golf Digest and one guest I talked to agreed. Green fees were \$31.90 when we visited.

Golfers should also consider a pair of designs by Alabama architect Earl Stone, the 27-hole Timber Creek Golf Club and the 18-hole Rock Creek. Timbercreek features spacious rolling fairways carved through the wetlands and forest of Dogwood, Magnolia and Pine—giving the nines their names—with lots of elevation changes. It's a player friendly layout from the forward tees, but can be challenging from the tips for those willing to try 7,000+ yards. Rock Creek, which will be added to Troon's collection of quality golfing options, meanders through the scenic Rock Creek basin and features some of the highest elevations in this part of Alabama.

In addition, golfers deciding to stay at the Stewart Lodges can enjoy playing the Jerry Pate-designed Steelwood Country Club, definitely one of the South's best kept secrets that meanders through natural pristine pine and dogwood forests before ending next to a large lake. Bring your fishing gear, too.

Along with a group of other writers, I got a first-hand look at all of the these courses on my first trip to Alabama, which I hope is not my last such adventure.

We stayed two nights each at the Grand Hotel Marriott, which boasts an historic setting on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, and the historic Battle House Renaissance Hotel in downtown Mobile. Both are part of Alabama's PCH Resorts & Hotels, a sister company to the RTJ Golf Trail, and rank among the best I've ever had the opportunity to stay in.

Another reason to come back is all the fantastic seafood.

## FESTIVAL

From Page 1

The festival was started 27 years ago as a point of community pride since the

seedless watermelon was developed here in Knox County.

Chamber officials noted that Knox City was designated by the Texas Legislature as the "Seedless Watermelon Capital

of Texas," thanks to crops from Donald Johnson. However, after his death in 2005 and then after his son left the business a few years later, not many seedless watermelon have been grown around Knox City.

## LEVELS

From Page 1

The Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District measured water levels in January and in July to determine the effects from the recharge from the season's precipitation.

Well levels in Knox Coun-

ty ranged from an increase of 0.17' to an increase of 1.71', with an average increase of 0.94', since January.

Well levels in Baylor County ranged from an increase of 0.25' to an increase of 5.46', with an average increase of 2.24', since January.

Well levels in Haskell County ranged from a decrease of -1.04' to an in-

crease of 1.46', with an average increase of 0.41', since January.

"One word of caution, the district has encountered bees in wells," McGuire added. "If you are going to be working around a well that hasn't been disturbed in a while, please exercise caution. There is a good probability that bees could be in the well."

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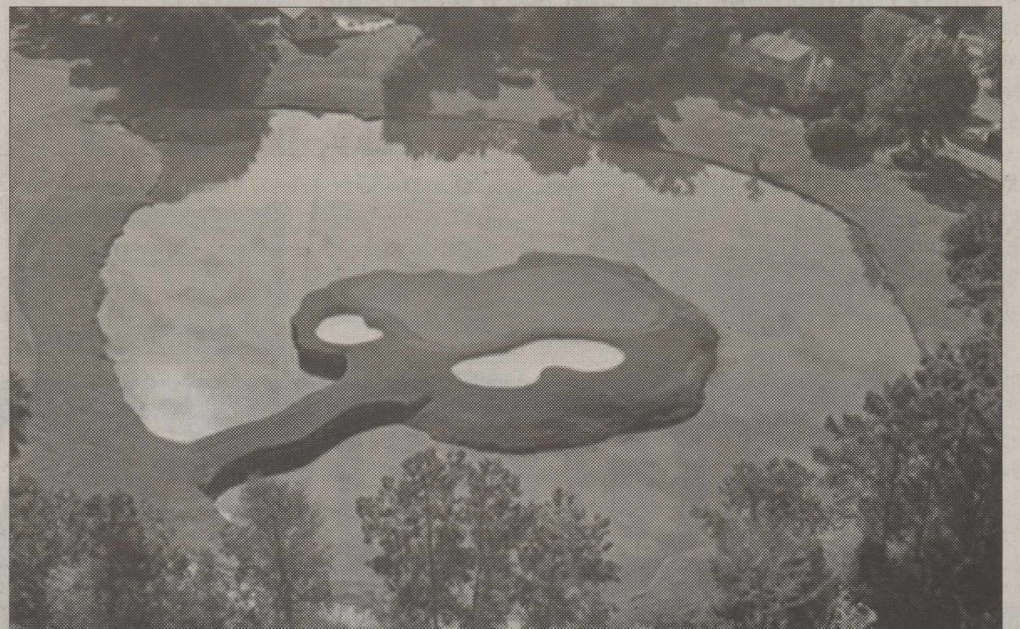
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Island green on par 5 14th at Lakewood C.C.

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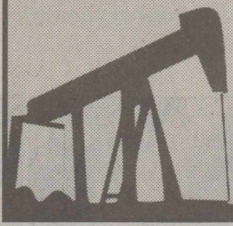
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Mac's Views

# Let's keep memories alive!

Many residents of Knox City and Knox County have already experienced a walk down memory lane by going to the nostalgic "57 Heaven Museum" at the corner of Highways 6 and 222 in Knox City.



JAMES MCAFEE

The emphasis is on old cars, not unexpected, since that is one of the true loves of Glenn Dale Large, the man who owns the building and who earlier was selected as the Knox City resident of the year. It also tells the history of Knox City, especially Large's Knox City High School class of 1961.

"There's no place like home," Large reminds everyone. He has lived all of his life

in Knox City except for two years when he went off to fight in Vietnam.

The feature attraction is Large's '57 Chevrolet, which he purchased in 1958 so he could go chop cotton.

Large also drove the car to Benjamin in 1965 when he married his wife. The clock in the car still reads 4 p.m., the time they married. The couple will celebrate their 50th anniversary later in the summer, Aug. 28 to be specific.

Elsewhere on this page are images from inside the building. You can see all the old cars and antiques for yourself as Large is usually there from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For some of us senior citizens, the antiques in the museum will bring back fond memories.

Karen Longan also touched on some of her favorite memories growing up in

Munday in a recent Lions Club meeting that I found very interesting.

Feeling that other readers might have similar memories of the "good ol' days" in Knox County, I would like to hear from you about your favorite memories. Just email them to me at kcnewscourier@gmail.com, giving your name and the approximate time frame of the memory, and I will continue to share more of the memories.

No ethics reform in Austin

Since others have been sounding off on various political subjects, I wanted to get in my two cents worth in regard to what happened in the 84th legislative session.

Texas shouldn't have had to wait two more years for the lawmakers to actually take steps to clean up their acts as far as ethics are concerned.

Even after Gov. Greg Abbott made eth-

ics a priority, no progress was actually made because two badly needed bills designed to increase transparency contained an amendment that would have actually weakened it.

House Bill 3736 and House Bill 3511 were both designed to increase requirements for personal financial disclosures, reduce conflicts of interest on state government boards and commissions and improve disclosures of government contract work by state officials. All things needed there in Austin.

However, a spousal loophole tacked onto the bills by Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, would have exempted married elected officials from having to share personal financial information with the public.

Since this would have undermined the policies in effect as well as the spirit, Abbott wisely vetoed the measures.

## '57 Heaven' showcases old cars



A pair of old cars are among the items on display at the "57 Heaven Museum" in Knox City.

## Wild pants day!



It wasn't planned, but four women from the same business in Munday showed up for work last week all wearing some wild pants. You'll have to guess which business, but just remember not many have four or even more women employees.

## Lawton woman dies after striking horses

WEINERT — Two days after an accident one mile north of here on Highway 277 on July 12, Brenda Kay Cooper of Lawton, OK died after returning home.

Cooper, who was wearing a seatbelt, was driving a 2008 Honda Civic south and struck two horses that were standing in the roadway. After being transported to Hen-

drick Hospital in Abilene for treatment, she was released and returned to Lawton, where she later died at Comanche County Hospital from the injuries in the crash.

The horses also died. It was unclear how the horses got out that night.

The crash was investigated by trooper Larry Adams Jr. of Haskell.

## TCEQ evaluates coastal wetlands

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

DALLAS—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continue to work on analyzing the condition of the wetland in Texas—as part of a national initiative.

The survey will help build state and tribal capacity to monitor and analyze wetland conditions while promoting collaboration across jurisdic-

ditional boundaries. TCEQ will use a \$245,000 grant from the EPA to produce the wetlands status report and implement a wetland monitoring program.

The Clean Water Act recognizes the dangers of having pollution upstream. As water flows downstream, it carries pollutants with it and because wetlands are instrumental in eliminating pollution, they have a huge impact on water downstream.

Thanks for reading the News-Courier!

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 6:00 pm: Parade, Downtown Knox City  
 8:00 pm Music by: Knox City Local Musicians

Saturday  
 8:00 am Golf Tournament at KC Country Club  
 9:00 am: Booths Open, City Park  
 Live Music Throughout The Day by Knox City Local Musicians  
 4:00 pm: Booths Close

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